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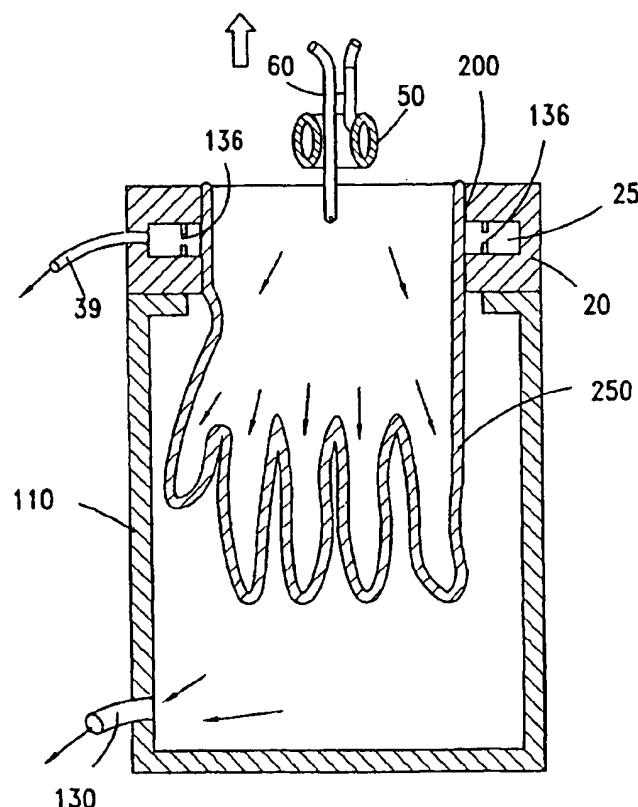
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(54) Title: GLOVE DONNING SYSTEM



WO 01/89406 A3

(57) Abstract: A glove donning system and method, the arrangement having typically a vacuum wand (42) for grasping the outer skin of the cuff portion (200) of a glove, (250) after which the wand (42) together with the glove (250) is suitably transported to a vacuum chamber (110), where the cuff portion (200) is aligned with the rim of the opening of the vacuum chamber (110). By grasping only the outer skin of the glove (250), the cuff portion (200) is gently opened sufficiently to enable a deflated inflatable ring (50) to be inserted into the cuff portion (200). The ring (50) is then inflated while positioned inside the cuff portion (200), which is thereby expanded until it touches the rim of the vacuum chamber (110). The rim is provided with a suction ring (20) capable of generating sufficient suction to keep the cuff (200) of the glove (250) pressed against the rim (20), at which point the inflatable ring (50) may be deflated and removed. A vacuum may then be applied to the chamber (110), inflating the glove and thus enabling a hand to be inserted thereinto. A donning device may be fitted with a pair of such systems, one for each hand, and further provided with suitable means for stacking and delivering on demand one glove to each vacuum chamber.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61B A47G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 3 067 001 A (MCCOLLUM) 4 December 1962 (1962-12-04) column 3, line 57 -column 4, line 16; figures ---	1,25,35
A	GB 943 757 A (LONDON RUBBER COMPANY LIMITED) 4 December 1963 (1963-12-04) figures ---	1,25,35
A	DE 200 354 C (HOEFTCKE) 1 December 1907 (1907-12-01) the whole document ---	1,25,35
A	US 4 915 272 A (VLOCK) 10 April 1990 (1990-04-10) cited in the application the whole document ---	35 -/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 93 04637 A (BAUER) 18 March 1993 (1993-03-18) abstract; figures -----	35

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 3067001	A 04-12-1962	NONE		
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		EP 0602164 A1 22-06-1994		